

**Board of Fire Commissioners
Fire District No. 1
330 Stillwells Corner Road
Freehold, NJ 07728**

Regular Meeting

June 25, 2024

Commissioner John Toutouchi called the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners to order at 6:00pm, and Chief Haas led the flag salute. Roll call was taken, and the commissioners present at the meeting were John Toutouchi, Andrew Story, Michael Fogarty, Phil Engel and Jonathan Dunberg. Board Secretary-Rachel Davis was also present. Board Attorney-Richard Braslow attended the meeting via teleconference and read the meeting notice.

Chairman Toutouchi called for a moment of silence for former member, Firefighter Frank Guadagnini, III, who passed away on June 22nd.

Motion was made by Mr. Story to approve the minutes from the May 28, 2024 regular meeting.

Second: Mr. Engel

Roll call vote: 5-0 all in favor

Treasurer's Report: Commissioner Fogarty read the June 25, 2024 Treasurer's Report into record.

Motion was made by Mr. Fogarty to transfer \$150,000 from Ocean First Money Market to Ocean First checking and to pay the bills in the amount of \$143,234.67.

Second: Mr. Story

Roll call vote: 5-0 all in favor

Insurance: Commissioner Dunberg reported that 1st Asst. Chief Santore's vehicle's part is ordered, they will call him when it comes in, and then he will set up an appointment to leave the vehicle there.

Legal: Mr. Braslow has nothing to report.

Buildings: Commissioner Toutouchi asked Mr. Braslow if he was able to reach out to his surveyor for the digital signs, but Commissioner Story reported that we have a survey already.

Commissioner Engel reported that the generator at Smithburg will have a part replaced on Friday as long as the part comes in. He will also look at the computer screen issue as well.

Website: (up to date)

Chief's Report: Chief Craig Haas inquired whether the Board has enough money in the budget for the July training weekend, which will cost \$12,000. Commissioner Story questioned the fee being charged per person and suggested that it be presented as \$250 per person and then the Board might be able to pick up the rest as long as it is approved.

Chief Haas then reported the following:

- 78 steering box repairs are being done;
- 80 will be going out for preventative maintenance;
- SCBA bottles were delivered; need to be tested in August 2025;
- 90 & 87 tire valves repaired yesterday;
- New gear is in, they shipped the wrong color;
- Large area search bags are in;
- Need to order regular gloves; hoods are in;
- Surplus pass alerts; Board said to write a letter;
- Gear cleaning to start next month;
- Will need to order a few more sets of gear;
- Need three more halogen bars.

Chief Haas also reported that Tom D. bought his own boots. The Board discussed the fact that they need to establish how they are going to approve the gear according to the motion that was recently passed. Mr. Braslow suggested a hold harmless letter. Commissioner Story suggested that the Board table the matter, and he will inquire at the local fire commissioner meeting and report back to the Board next month. In the meantime, Commissioner Story will research the boots to see if they are approved. Board agreed. Mr. Braslow said, ultimately, it will fall back on the Board's shoulders. He also said that worker's compensation should control it as long as it is an authorized firematic activity. Commissioner Fogarty reminded everyone that if the Board does not have something in place to be approved and someone gets injured, then it's on the Board.

Commissioner Fogarty suggested an on-site gear cleaning. He will get the information.

Commissioner Toutouchi will send the Chief the MBT quotes. Mr. Toutouchi also mentioned that he is waiting to hear from the company on the exterior camera project.

Fire Company: (no one to represent) Commissioner Fogarty will see President Keane to have the contract signed.

Old Business: (none)

New Business: Mr. Toutouchi inquired about getting the preemption system serviced. Chief Petersen said it was too expensive.

Commissioner Story said that an invitation went out to multiple fire commissioners from local communities and he and Commissioner Fogarty plan on meeting with them to discuss various Board of Commissioner topics.

Audience: (none)

Motion was made by Mr. Fogarty to go into executive session at 6:31pm for personnel reasons.

Second: Mr. Story

Roll call vote: 5-0 all in favor

(back from executive 7:04pm)

The Board then reviewed Chief Hass' 5-year plan.

Motion was made by Mr. Fogarty to sell 16-1-88 with the plow and stripped.

Second: Mr. Story

5-0 all in favor

There being no further business, Mr. Fogarty made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8pm.

Second: Mr. Story

5-0 all in favor

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Dunberg, Secretary
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